



# AIMS UPDATE FOR TEST COORDINATORS

May 17, 2004

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We recommend that recipients of the AIMS Update communicate the information to superintendents, charter holders, principals, school test coordinators, teachers, special education directors, curriculum directors, counselors, assistant principals, students, and parents.

## TESTING CALENDAR FOR 2004-2005

### Fall Testing Dates:

October 26-28, 2004	HIGH SCHOOL AIMS (11 <sup>TH</sup> AND 12 <sup>TH</sup> GRADERS RETESTING TO MEET STANDARDS)
October 26, 2004	Reading
October 27, 2004	Writing
October 28, 2004	Mathematics
November 2-4, 2004	HIGH SCHOOL AIMS FOR SCHOOLS ON INTERSESSION IN OCTOBER (11 <sup>TH</sup> AND 12 <sup>TH</sup> GRADERS RETESTING TO MEET STANDARDS)
November 2, 2004	Reading
November 3, 2004	Writing
November 4, 2004	Mathematics

### Spring Testing Dates:

February 22-23, 2005	HIGH SCHOOL AIMS READING/Writing
February 22, 2005	Reading
February 23, 2005	Writing
March 1-2, 2005	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing
March 1, 2005	Reading
March 2, 2005	Writing
April 11- 22, 2005	3-8 TESTING WINDOW FOR AIMS DPA (Dual Purpose Assessment) 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> grade TERRANOVA
April 12, 2005	HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS
April 19, 2005	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS
April, 2005	Science Field Test (grades tested to be determined)

## STATE BOARD AWARDS STATE TESTING CONTRACT TO CTB/ MCGRAW-HILL

On Monday, March 29, 2004, the state Board of Education voted unanimously to award the new contract for the State's testing program to CTB (Division of McGraw Hill). The testing contract will include the development and administration of the AIMS Dual Purpose Assessment (DPA) for Grades 3-8, AIMS for high school, an NRT (Norm Reference Test) at Grades 2 and 9, and a new science test for Grades 4, 8, and 10. The AIMS DPA combines 20 to 30 NRT items with AIMS Standards Based Items into one test form. The AIMS DPA will provide a separate NRT score and a separate AIMS score while reducing the total number of items by approximately 40%. The Stanford 9 will be used for the last time this spring.

### **In spring 2005**

CTB TerraNova NRT will replace the Stanford 9 NRT. TerraNova items will be used in the AIMS DPA for producing the NRT score.

### **Second graders will:**

-take the TerraNova (reading, language arts and mathematics).

### **Grades 3-8 will:**

-take the AIMS DPA (reading and mathematics).  
-take only an AIMS extended-writing prompt for writing.  
-take NRT (TerraNova) items for language arts.

### **Ninth graders will:**

-take the TerraNova (reading, language arts, and mathematics).

### **Tenth graders will:**

-take only the AIMS.

When a standardized test that produces norm referenced scores is re-normed, or a new version is given, it is not unusual for the percentile rank scores to decrease from 2 to 7 points, depending on the grade

level and content area. Likewise, when a standardized test from another company is used, scores may fluctuate. The Board has been advised that this will occur, and the ADE Accountability Division is aware of this.

In 2004-2005 the AIMS DPA will be administered to Grades 3-8 using items written to the articulated standards in reading and mathematics. This will allow for a common score scale to be constructed across Grades 3-8. The scale will run from a score of 200 or 300 to 800 or 900. This will allow the reporting of student progress from year to year on the same scale. Extended writing will also have its own scale.

CTB plans to request schools to participate in a study to link Stanford 9 and TerraNova in the fall quarter of 2004. CTB will contact individual schools/districts with the request and plan.

### FALL HIGH SCHOOL AIMS

The Fall High School AIMS will be administered the last week of October. Harcourt Assessment will be the contractor for this administration of AIMS. The contact information will remain the same as it has been for the past three years.

It is extremely important that we have the name of each district/charter holder that will be on intersession during the October administration of AIMS so that the High School AIMS can be administered the following week. Email a copy of your district/charter holder calendar and a request for a waiver to administer High School AIMS the first week of November to Roberta Alley, [ralley@ade.az.gov](mailto:ralley@ade.az.gov) by August 15, 2004.

Please note the delivery dates for testing materials, October 12-15, 2004. If your school/charter holder is on intersession during that week, please contact Carol Strickler at Harcourt and make arrangements for delivery the following week, October 18-22, 2004. The telephone number at Harcourt is 1 (800) 800-8305, ext. 5620.

The following are important dates for the fall administration of High School AIMS.

August 15, 2004 (tentative)	INFO Packet from Harcourt
September 1, 2004 (tentative)	Harcourt CERVS website for enrollment and ordering of materials
September 14, 2004	Final date for entering SAIS information for tested 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> graders pre-ID labels
September 20-24, 2004	Pre-test Workshops for fall HS AIMS

### FALL HIGH SCHOOL AIMS continued

October 12-15, 2004	AIMS testing materials delivered to districts/charter holders
October 26-28, 2004	Test Window
<i>November 2-4, 2004</i>	<i>Test Window for schools on intersession</i>
November 2-3, 2004	Ship materials to Harcourt
November 5, 2004	Testing materials at Harcourt for scoring
<i>November 5-8, 2004</i>	<i>Schools on intersession ship materials to Harcourt</i>
<i>November 10, 2004</i>	<i>Testing materials of schools on intersession at Harcourt for scoring</i>
December 15, 2004	Roster Reports to districts
January 3, 2004	Paper Report and CD to districts

### HIGH SCHOOL AIMS

#### Which Students Should Test

- All students in the **tenth** grade should take the High School AIMS for the first time **spring of their tenth grade** year, based on the cohort year (year a student entered high school for the first time).
- Students in **eleventh and twelfth** grade who **have not yet “Met the Standard”** on a particular subtest must retake that test (offered **fall and spring**).
- Students in **eleventh and twelfth** grade who **have already “Met the Standard”** on a particular subtest have the option of retesting in order to improve their scores. These students can only retest during the **spring** administration of AIMS.
- Students who have **already “Exceeded the Standard”** on any particular subtest **may not** retake that test.
- Students who move into the state must pass the AIMS. These students should test at their first opportunity (fall or spring).

## HIGH SCHOOL AIMS continued

### Accountability

- Any student who “Exceeds the Standard” on any particular subtest in tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade will be counted in the AZ LEARNS accountability calculation for “Highly Performing” and “Excelling” schools.
- Scores from the fall retest will be included in the spring school profile report for student achievement.

### Previous High School Scores

Next fall, individual high school students’ AIMS scores will be in their SAIS files. The ADE will take the data from the Spring 2004 AIMS and post it in SAIS. Districts will be able to look up a student by his/her SAIS number and determine if that student met the standard or will need to retest on fall High School AIMS.

### Arizona Regents Honors Endorsement Program

The Arizona Board of Regents, at the recommendation of Superintendent Horne, approved the following program for graduating students in Arizona.

Arizona students receiving High Honors endorsements will be recommended for tuition scholarships. The following guidelines will be used by the Arizona Department of Education to determine which students will receive the High Honors endorsement.

- Student must complete all 16 Core Competency courses by graduation with a B or better in each course. (4 units English; 4 units Mathematics; 3 units Laboratory Science; 2 units Social Science; 2 units Foreign Language; and 2 units Fine Arts).
- Students must meet at least one of the following academic requirements:
  - GPA: Cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
  - OR
  - Class Rank: Student is in the top 5% of their high school graduating class upon graduation.
- Students must exceed the standard on AIMS
  - “Exceeds the Standard” on each of the three High School AIMS Tests.
  - OR
  - “Exceeds the Standard” on two out of the three High School AIMS Tests and meet the Standard on the third test.
- AND
- Students must get at least 3’s on two of the AP or IB Tests.

## Graduation Requirements and AIMS

In Arizona Revised Statute 15-701.01 A 3, the state Board of Education is directed to “develop and adopt competency tests for the graduation of pupils from high school in at least the areas of reading, writing and mathematics and shall establish passing scores for each such test.”

The state Board of Education adopted the following regulation R7-2-302, “...receipt of a passing score on the reading, mathematics and writing portions of the AIMS (Arizona’s Instrument to Measure Standards) assessment for the graduation of pupils from high school or issuance of a high school diploma, effective for the graduation class of 2006.”

The following are guidelines for the implementation of this regulation:

- Students graduating after January 1, 2006 must “Meet the Standard” on all three High School AIMS (reading, writing, and mathematics).
- Students moving to Arizona from out of state must “Meet the Standard” on all three High School AIMS. Arizona does **not** have a reciprocal agreement with any other states that also require an exit exam for high school graduation.
- Students in the 2006 cohort group or later who graduate prior to January 1, 2006 are not required to “Meet the Standard” on the AIMS to receive a diploma.
- Students in the 2005 cohort group or prior cohorts who do not graduate until January 1, 2006 or later, must “Meet the Standard” to receive a diploma.

### RETURN OF STANFORD 9 MATERIAL

Harcourt Assessment will contact districts/charter holders to inform them of the procedure for the return of the Stanford 9 materials.

## **EXTENDED TESTING CALENDAR**

The extended testing calendar for 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008 is enclosed. Districts should review this calendar prior to planning district's calendars. Please note that spring 2006 has a three-week testing window due to the dates of Easter, Passover, and a large number of districts that plan an intersession or spring break the week prior to Easter.

### **2005-2006**

#### **Fall Testing Dates:**

October 25-27, 2005	HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing/ MATHEMATICS for 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students retesting
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#### **Spring Testing Dates:**

February 28- March 1, 2006	HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing
March 7-8, 2006	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing
April 3-21, 2006	3-8 TESTING WINDOW FOR AIMS DPA and 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> grade TERRANOVA and SCIENCE FIELD TEST (grade to be determined)
April 4-5, 2006	HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS and SCIENCE FIELD TEST
April 18, 2006	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

### **2006-2007**

#### **Fall Testing Dates:**

October 31- November 1-2, 2006	HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing/ MATHEMATICS FOR 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students retesting
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#### **Spring Testing Dates:**

February 27-28, 2007	HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing
March 6-7, 2007	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing

### **2006-2007**

#### **Spring Testing Dates continued:**

April 9- 20, 2007	3-8 TESTING WINDOW for AIMS DPA and 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> grade TERRANOVA and SCIENCE TEST (grade to be determined)
April 10-11, 2007	HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS and SCIENCE TEST
April 17-18, 2007	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS and SCIENCE TEST

### **2007-2008**

#### **Fall Testing Dates:**

October 30-November.1, 2007	HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing/ MATHEMATICS for 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students retesting
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#### **Spring Testing Dates:**

February 26-27, 2008	HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing
March 4-5, 2008	Make-up for HIGH SCHOOL READING/Writing
April 7- 18, 2008	3-8 TESTING WINDOW FOR AIMS DPA and 2 <sup>ND</sup> and 9 <sup>TH</sup> grade TERRANOVA and SCIENCE TEST (grade to be determined)
April 8-9, 2008	HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS and SCIENCE TEST
April 15-16, 2008	Make up for HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS and SCIENCE

**TESTING CALENDAR FOR**  
**2004-2005**

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**Spring Testing Dates:**

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March 1, 2005	Reading
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April, 2005	Science Field Test (grades tested to be determined)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Accountability Division**

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**Assessment Section**

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**AIMS Test Administration Questions:**

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**HARCOURT:**

**Questions About Scoring:**

Telephone: (800) 328-5999

**Other questions (e.g. shipping, materials):**

Telephone: (800) 800-8305 ext. 5645 or 5620

**CTB/McGraw-Hill:**

Contract numbers to be posted at a later date